

**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Applicant : Douglas Fisher  
Filed : 06/05/2001  
Art Unit : 3621  
Docket No. : 01-103-2  
Continuation of : 09/875,088  
Customer No. : 23843

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This case is a continuation of No. 09/875,088, entitled Method, System, and Service for Conducting Authenticated Business Transactions, filed June 5, 2001. In response to a Final Office Action mailed October 8, 2004 (the "Office Action"), Applicant filed an Amendment After Final canceling the rejected claims, Nos. 1-5 and 11, as amended by Amendment 1 to the original application, without prejudice to pursuing those claims in a continuation application. This continuation application, Attorney Docket No. 01-103-2, incorporates Claims 1-5 and 11 from Amendment 1 as Claims 1-5 and 6, respectively, (with a clarification added to Claim 1), and adds new claims 7 and 8. This Preliminary Amendment provides Applicant's reasoning for its contention that prior claims 1-5 and 11 were improperly rejected as obvious over the references cited in the Office Action.

**Amendment to the Claims – None.**